

Bethel Village Council

February 8, 2010

The Council of the Village of Bethel, Ohio, met in regular session in Council Chambers on Monday, February 8, 2010, with Mayor James T. Dick presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Mr. Cherry delivered the invocation, followed by Mayor Dick leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Upon roll call, the following members were counted as present: Council Members Priscilla Johnson, Janice Ireton, Donna Gunn, Gary Hutchinson, Tim Cherry, Mary Daugherty; Solicitor George Leicht, Village Administrator Travis Dotson and Fiscal Officer Angel Burton.

Mayor Dick thanked Bethel Building and Loan for sponsoring this year's Council meeting videos.

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2010 meeting, as written, was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Mr. Hutchinson. All ye.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor James T. Dick

A request for a fiscal analysis has been sent to the State Auditor's office. A team will be onsite February 18, 2010 to begin the process. A fiscal declaration may result from the analysis. The analysis and report will take around 6 weeks to complete.

For January, 2010, Mayor's Court total revenue was \$7002, with \$4979 going to the Village, and \$1683 going to the State.

Mayor Dick has waived the Burke Park rental fees for a community-wide Easter Egg Hunt on March 27, 2010.

Mr. Chuck Wisby has been asked to fill the vacant Planning Commission seat.

Instead of appointing a full-time officer to fill the vacant position left by Ofc. Woodruff's resignation, two part-time officers may be appointed, and the expense has been included in the Village's 2010 appropriations. It is also the intention to appoint 4 new auxiliary officers, with 2 of those appointments already made (Ofc Warren and Ofc Rudd). Chief Planck has recommended Auxiliary Officer David Wood be promoted to fill one of the two part-time positions.

Mayor Dick agrees with the recommendation, and is appointing Ofc. David Wood a part-time officer.

A motion promoting Ofc David Wood from auxiliary officer to part-time officer, at a pay rate of \$10/hour, was made by Ms. Daugherty. Seconded by Ms. Johnson. All ye.

One of Mayor Dick's priorities is working with Bethel's community groups to spread the word about events they are sponsoring, and helping facilitate the networking between the groups. Various events may require extra police detail and the use of community buildings, and he hopes to see the events advertised throughout the community.

Village Administrator, Travis Dotson

Seven tons of salt were used during the last snow event. To prepare for future inclement weather, the Public Works department bought another load of salt today.

The Lions Club will be sponsoring a pancake breakfast this Saturday, beginning at 7:30 am at Bethel Tate High School.

Fiscal Officer, Angel Burton

Nil.

Solicitor George Leicht

Mr. Leicht has forwarded the J & E Properties settlement to the Village Administrator for signature, and expects the check will arrive within a week.

There is a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing scheduled for this Thursday at 7:00 p.m., regarding a Norton billboard that is substantially larger than the code allows.

Police Chief Mark Planck

Nil.

Safety Committee, Chairperson Gary Hutchinson

The Safety Committee met Monday, February 1, 2010, and discussed the replacement of the police levy. The current .9 mill levy brings in around \$26K, falling short of the department's needs.

Safety recommended Finance consider setting the Police Levy millage at 2.9.

Public Works Committee, Chairperson Tim Cherry

The Public Works Committee will meet Monday, February 22, 2010 at 5:30. The committee will be reviewing the Village's water rates, and will forward, if any, recommendations to Finance. The review will consider the water system's infrastructure and long range planning, including the 20 year agreement with Tate Monroe.

Finance Committee, Chairperson Donna Gunn

The Finance Committee also met February 1st, following Safety, and concurs the police department is in dire need of additional funding. For that reason, the Finance Committee has recommended a 2.9 mill levy be placed on the May 4, 2010 primary ballot. Two resolutions are before Council to consider related to the levy issue.

The committee also discussed a contract with SGT for IT services, and the public works uniform allowance.

The current employee handbook, adopted in April, 2009, specifically set the annual uniform allowance to \$200. Prior to that, the uniform allowance was an understood amount of \$325, and there were employees that overspent the \$200 allowance prior to the new handbook's adoption, and retroactive effective date of January 1, 2009.

To prevent any audit issues and potential findings, the Committee recommends the uniform overage amounts be forgiven. Ms. Burton will copy Council on the specific overage amounts, so there is no question as to what is being forgiven. Council will revisit the matter at the next regular meeting.

The Village is under contract with Aramark for uniform services, and may consider amending the uniform policy and annual amounts when that contract expires.

Ms. Gunn requested the Village Administrator contact Mr. Royse, and invite him to attend the next Finance Committee meeting, which will be Monday, March 8, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Personnel Committee, Chairperson Mary Daugherty

Nil.

Burke Trust Commission, Janice Ireton

Nil.

Planning Commission, Priscilla Johnson

Ms. Johnson is looking forward to working with Mr. Wisby.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Priscilla Johnson: Nil.

Janice Ireton: Nil.

Donna Gunn: Mr. Wisby is a good addition to the Planning Commission. Congratulations to Ofc. Wood.

Gary Hutchinson: The Safety Committee's regularly scheduled meeting is the first Monday of the month, though those meetings will only be held on an as-needed basis.

Tim Cherry: Nil.

Mary Daugherty: Nil.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Rus Whitley asked if Council was obligated to offer a part-time position to Ofc. Clemons, since he was laid-off.

Mr. Leicht stated Ofc Clemons was laid off for fiscal reasons, and the Village is not under any obligation to ask him to fill a part-time position.

Mr. John Watts inquired about the paving of the walking trail and the purchase of picnic tables for Burke Park. Mr. Dotson stated bids will be taken in the spring on the repaving of the walk path. The Burke Park picnic tables were put on hold due to the former Mayor's surgery, and the possibility of having Grant Vocational students build the tables. Grant Vocational would build wood tables, though the hope was to get concrete tables. Concrete tables are expensive, and a better price is being sought.

LEGISLATION

RESOLUTION 881 A RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL TAX IN EXCESS OF TEN MILL LIMITATION

Resolution 881 is required filing for the placement of the 2.9 mill police levy on the May Primary Ballot.

A motion waiving the 3 readings of RES 881 A Resolution of Necessity, and Declaring an Emergency, was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Mr. Hutchinson. By roll: Ms. Gunn "yea", Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Ms. Johnson "yea", Ms. Ireton "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea", Ms. Daugherty "yea". Motion carried.

A motion adopting RES 881 A Resolution of Necessity, and Declaring an Emergency, was made by Ms. Gunn. Seconded by Ms. Ireton. By roll: Ms. Gunn "yea", Ms. Ireton "yea", Ms. Johnson "yea", Mr. Hutchinson "yea", Mr. Cherry "yea", Ms. Daugherty "yea". Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 882 A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCESS OF TEN MILL LIMITATION, 1st Reading

ORDINANCE 1634 SETTING THE ZONING FEES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BETHEL, 1st Reading

A special meeting of Council will be held Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to consider Resolution 882 A Resolution to Proceed to Levy a Tax in Excess of Ten Mill Limitation.

JANUARY EXPENSES

A motion to approve the January, 2010 expenses, as presented (checks 20525-20603, in addition to payroll and direct charges), was made by Mr. Hutchinson. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All yea.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of the presented bills and expenses (checks 20604-20647) was made by Ms. Ireton. Seconded by Ms. Daugherty. All yea.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cherry. Seconded by Ms. Gunn. All yea. 7:12 p.m.

James T. Dick, Mayor

Angelina Burton, Fiscal Officer